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Approved For Release 2003/08/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R010700360007-1

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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TOPIC Soviet Troops in Weissenfels

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DATE OF CONTENT 24 December 1951 to 11 January 1952

DATE PREPARED 6 February 1952

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

*RETURN TO CIA
1/10/52*

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1. On 11 January 1952, the Pionier Kaserne on the south side of Selauerstrasse, Weissenfels (N 52/J 99), quartered about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. All troop quarters in the installation were fully lighted during the evening hours. Many soldiers were seen walking between the individual barracks buildings. From 40 to 50 tanks of models T-44 and JS-1 or JS-2 were seen in the garages. Several clusters of 4 or 5 trucks each were dispersed over the billeting area. Soldiers were seen servicing motor vehicles and assembling for rifle drill. Officers of the tank unit in the Pionier Kaserne, who were billeted on Thorner Strasse and at 23-25 Selauerstrasse, included Colonels Shevchenko (fmu), Bukhov (fmu), Bata (fmu); Major Yudin (fmu); Captains Yenchekin (fmu), Yizelevich (fmu); Senior Lieutenants Piskin (fmu), Bolotin (fmu), Nikinov (fmu), Dobrinin (fmu), Litnior (fmu), Ditiavenko (fmu), Maruv (fmu); and Lieutenants Sinica (fmu), Kresnikov (fmu) and Shantiyer (fmu). On 11 January 1952, [redacted] Colonel Bata (fmu) as the commanding officer; and Colonel Bukov (fmu) and Lieutenant Shantiyer (fmu) as political officers. On the occasion of an alert practice in the Pionier Kaserne on 11 January, all officers rushed to their billets and returned with baggage. As the Pionier Kaserne has no kitchen facilities, the troops from the installation marched to the opposite Infanterie Kaserne in groups of from 20 to 30 for mess calls. *

2. On 11 January, the Infanterie Kaserne on the north side of Selauerstrasse quartered about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The open wooden sheds sheltered tanks and trucks, while the only brick garage available sheltered tanks exclusively. About half the troops observed were recruits. The officers of the unit were billeted on A. Junge Strasse. About 30 soldiers were seen receiving physical training in the billeting area on 6 January. The troops were inspected by 6 high-ranking officers between 6 and 10 January.

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17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th Gds Mts Rifle DIV in the Pioneer Kaserne.

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██████████. Another source identified Colonel Badya (fmu) as the commanding officer of the tank regiment and one Colonel Kukhrov (fmu) as the regiment's political officer in September 1951. These officers are believed to be the Colonels Bata (fmu) and Bukhov (fmu) mentioned in the present report.

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